

FOCHT THINKS CAR LINES MAY MERGE SELVES

Sees Six-Cent Fares as Result of Joining, He Asserts.

WOULD LIFT BAN ON FREE UNION

Claims Congress Would Act If Owners Fail To Unite.

Six-cent fares would follow a merger of the two traction companies, in the opinion of Chairman Focht of the House District Committee, based on figures presented in testimony before the committee.

A 5-cent fare, or six tickets for 25 cents, cannot be realized without a wage reduction, Focht said.

Focht expressed himself as opposing the settlement of the problem on a basis of the inequity of former owners of one of the roads, declaring that that is "water passed over the wheel," and "what we must do is to meet the present situation."

See Merger Some Time.

The program he approves, he said, is first, giving the traction companies the right to merge, so they can never complain they did not have that opportunity, and then, if they do not merge, to "put the screws on them."

"After the merger is the time to consider fare reductions," he said. "It is impossible to tell how low the fare can be made until that time."

The ability of a consolidated company to reduce fares cannot be measured by a whim nor set by an arbitrary conclusion, but must be made according to facts arrived at after it is determined what reduction in overhead or operating cost can be made through elimination of one set of operating officials and functioning agencies.

Points Out Savings.

"Being able to operate all lines as a whole means that certain sections of the city would be relieved of congestion in rush hours by having all street car traffic handled by one skilled dispatcher. This also would add to the income of the merged company."

"These two elements might make possible a reduction to 6 cents, according to deductions I have made from testimony presented before the committee."

"I feel certain, however, that a five-cent or six-for-a-quarter fare cannot be reached without an attack on the wages of the motormen and conductors, which should by no means be attempted until the cost of living drops considerably."

Focht expressed confidence that Congress would find a way to bring about a merger, but declined to predict by what process.

"M. O. Disposed Of."

"The question of municipal ownership of the lines and electric plants being eliminated," he said, "we are now confronted with the problem of working out a practical method."

The bill, which I introduced in the House, I introduced to anticipate the challenge likely to be offered by the railway companies in case pressure was put upon them without first giving them an opportunity to merge."

"However, since this feature can be more extensively elaborated upon in the Wood bill as well as other amendments, I have left the committee to formulate a measure to meet every demand looking to a merger and consequent lowering of fares on the theory I previously advanced."

"I believe Mr. Ball, like myself, has no pride of authorship in his bill and will be glad to co-operate heartily in whipping together various ideas of value to obtain the single object, hope and purpose of the committee—improved service and lower fares."

Content of Merger.

"What do you propose to do to force a merger?" he was asked. "I cannot conceive that the capitalists who own the two roads," Focht replied, "would waste time and money and temper dallying around after merging after getting the right, since big business interests really permit settlement to stand in the way of convenience."

"Yet if there is obstinacy about co-operating to produce lower fares and better service, then I am certain that Congress without hesitation will find a way of forcing a merger. By what exact process, I am not able to say since I am not looking for anything so drastic."

It can be said with certainty, however, if such a conclusion is reached, Congress can be depended on to act, and with expedition."

DIVES TWENTY FEET IN HEROIC RESCUE

CUMBERLAND, Md., July 9.—James Turnbull, 15 years old, 454 North Center street, made heroic rescue of Robert Martin, 10 years old, from drowning in Mills Creek yesterday, at Carrigansville. Young Turnbull heard a cry for help, dived off a 20-foot embankment and saved the lad, who was struggling in the water.

Three Soldiers Caught In Woods with Women

DANVILLE, Va., July 9.—Three soldiers, alleged deserters from Camp Jackson, and two women were captured in the woods twelve miles from here this afternoon and were taken to the local jail charged with desertion. A. D. Lord, local transfer-car driver, and after being driven, leaving him beside a country road, stealing his car.

Irish Peace Hangs by Thread, Declares Sir Philip Gibbs

Near East Problems Still Cause For Anxiety—Turkish Advance Menace to British Control of Dardanelles.

By SIR PHILIP GIBBS.

(Special Cable to The Washington Herald, LONDON, July 9.)—In my dispatch last week I ventured to say that reason and realism were beginning to replace passion and illusion in the settlement of world affairs. Optimism would be carried too far if one prophesied an unchecked career of common sense, which is a most uncommon quality, but events the last few days and the trend of thought among European statesmen are in favor of my cheerful forecast.

By the settlement of the coal strike and the agreement for wage reductions in the engineering, cotton, shipbuilding and bricklaying industries, Great Britain has passed through the worst crisis in the history of her trade and after frightful losses may now look forward to a revival of work and business. This cannot be rapid, because of the permanent damage done to foreign markets by all this fatal strike and because even now intensive industry and efficiency are not yet organized by a national spirit of service as

they are needed to compete with foreign labor and energy. But the factories are getting busy again and orders are coming in.

In some parts of the political horizon the storm clouds are passing and there is at least a heralding of light and peace. There may be peace even in Ireland, incredible as that may seem. In my recent articles I have not dealt with the Irish situation, though it is always in my thoughts, because I could not say anything helpful or likely to avoid raising premature hope, though I have known of the progress of negotiations behind the scenes.

Even now the chance for peace

LIE PASSED, FISTS WAVE, JEERS ECHO IN TARIFF DEBATE

Call Mellon Monopolist, Southerners Stupid in Hot Session.

Hisses, jeers, sectional feeling members calling each other liars, threatened fist fights, vigorous attacks on alleged trusts, denunciation of Woodrow Wilson and the noted Muscle Shoals nitrate project, scathing fund charges, an old weather-beaten straw hat, caustic sarcasm, humor, and the frequent appearance of a drink that looked like a Bronx cocktail, but proved to be only orange juice, were features of a tariff debate in the House yesterday which was hotter than the weather.

Representative Murphy, Republican, Ohio, caused an uproar when he charged that Democratic opposition to the tariff was based on a desire "to keep the wages of the black man down," and attacked the ability of men from the South.

Looks Like Fight.

Hisses and jeers came from the Democratic side, two or three members jumped to their feet, called the statements lies, and started down the aisles toward him. Representative Mann, Illinois, in the chair, succeeded in restoring order. Murphy claimed the bill was necessary to encourage employment throughout the country.

The name of Secretary Mellon was brought into the debate when Representative Oldfield, Arkansas, Democrat, charged that the bill was framed to make greater profits for the trusts.

"The Republican party has the nerve to bring in a bill increasing the duty on aluminum from 2 to 5 cents a pound, expecting the American consumers to contribute to this gigantic aluminum monopoly, controlled by the Mellon interests, which in the year 1920 distributed in dividends 15 per cent on its capital of \$20,000,000," said Oldfield.

"But Mr. Mellon is Secretary of the Treasury, hence you must give him monopoly protection."

"Getting Back Advances."

"By this bill you are enabling the manufacturers of America to get back the \$4,000,000 paid to nominal and elect your Presidential candidates."

Oldfield attacked the alleged cement and lumber trusts and criticized the rates on cotton manufactures, earthenware, collars and many other articles. He claimed that a duty of 25 a barrel was asked on mackerel, but a rate of 45 was allowed. The average ad valorem rate in the bill will be 55 per cent, as compared with 40 per cent in the last Republican tariff, he asserted.

Other speakers during the debate included Representative Garner, of Texas, who is leading the Democratic fight, and Representative Bacharach, of New Jersey, a Republican member of the Ways and Means Committee.

"In my judgment this will increase the cost of living materially," said Mr. Garner. "It will restrict exports as well as imports, and it will increase the cost of the economic situation more adversely than if you went to actual free trade. Either free trade or protection would be bad at this time. A middle-ground policy should be adopted."

Mondell Takes Hand.

The Rules Committee approved the special rule for consideration of the bill and it was placed on the calendar for Tuesday. It provides that general debate shall end on July 14 and a final vote shall be taken July 21. Majority Leader Mondell assailed the Democrats for not presenting constructive criticism of the bill.

Cuban Polo Pony Declined as Gift By Mrs. Harding

Mrs. Harding has declined the gift of an attractive polo pony offered to her by a gallant Cuban. The offer of the gift grew out of the admiration expressed by the President's wife for "Billy," one of the ponies of the Cuban army team, which recently played the American army team here. Lieut. Col. Eugenio Silva, captain of the Cuban team, sent a note to Mrs. Harding saying that it would give him great pleasure to make her a present of the pony.

In her acknowledgment, Mrs. Harding expressed her appreciation, but said that in view of his admirable qualities as a polo player and his valuable service to the Cuban army, she could not think of accepting the valuable horse.

The equestrian statue of Joan of Arc which stood before the Cathedral of Rheims, is to be returned with impressive ceremonies. It was removed when the Germans were probing by the grand jury. Claims this was not entirely due to enlistments as among women the convictions in two years fell from 21,000 to 7,000.

(Copyright, 1921.)

The machine was found not far away badly damaged. The men gave the driver, J. J. Morgan, Timothy Bryant and Jessie Dyer.

FOR DISARMING EXPECTED SOON

Statement by Administration Only Matter of Few Days.

CONSENT OF BRITAIN BELIEVED ASSURED

Hughes Reported to Be in Touch with England And Japan.

By A. L. BRADFORD.

A definite step toward disarmament may be expected shortly, it was understood last night from high authority.

A public pronouncement from President Harding or Secretary of State Hughes may be a matter of only a few days, it was strongly indicated here.

Already Secretary of State Hughes is understood to have obtained the consent of Great Britain and possibly of Japan to a disarmament conference between those two countries and the United States.

Word From Harvey.

Secretary Hughes is believed to have received this word from Col. George Harvey, American ambassador to London, yesterday. He went immediately to the White House to confer with President Harding, and later in the day he visited the President again, when he is believed to have presented to Mr. Harding for final approval the action he intends to take on the word from London.

Following the White House conference, it was stated Secretary Hughes may be dispatching notes to Great Britain and Japan, in which he may be virtually calling a conference in the name of President Harding. It was stated on high authority that the favorable word which has been received from London on the disarmament question must in no wise be considered a suggestion from the British government for a disarmament conference, but that Great Britain is simply expressing agreement with this country.

Curran Asked Conference.

According to reports from London, Lord Curran, the British Secretary for Foreign Affairs, "repeatedly" has been asked to call a disarmament conference in London, which he had with Ambassador Harvey and Ambassador Haysashi of Japan.

The United States took the initiative in disarmament when President Harding sent "diplomatic inquiries" to Great Britain and Japan through Ambassador Harvey in London "as to the acceptability and advisability" of a disarmament conference.

It was learned last night that some consideration was given to making public the decision of President Harding and Secretary Hughes, but decided against it, as it was felt that this decision be communicated to London and Tokio.

The clear information that developments have so shaped themselves that a decision for definite action has been taken by the American government, follows anxious months of agitation in the United States, Great Britain and Japan.

Britain Reported Eager.

Great Britain is believed glad to accede to a disarmament conference, because of the dilemma she has found herself in regarding the renewal of the Anglo-Japanese alliance.

Secretary Hughes is understood to have made plain to British Ambassador Curran the opposition of American sentiment toward the alliance, and Great Britain is believed to have been reluctant to renew it in the face of this opposition from the United States, eagerly turning to a conference of the three powers to discuss disarmament as the easiest way out of the difficulty.

SAYS DANCE IS AIM OF BRITISH YOUTH

Bishop of London Deplores Lack of Interest in Spiritual Matters.

(Special Cable to The Washington Herald and Chicago Tribune.)

LONDON, July 9.—The Bishop of London, in an article in the Morning Post this morning, takes Great Britain to task for its lack of interest in spiritual matters. He declares he is greatly disappointed at the general effect of the great conflict on the individual soldier, saying there is no sign of a spiritual revival, and says all the young people think about a dancing and other forms of amusement.

"Half in joke I gave leave, after the armistice, for all the young people in my diocese to dance their heads off for nearly three years." The bishop announced he would oppose any return to the drinking laws of Great Britain. He pointed out that in 1915 when the drinking hours in Great Britain were reduced, convictions of drunkenness in London in the one year fell from 67,000 to 18,000. He says this was not entirely due to enlistments as among women the convictions in two years fell from 21,000 to 7,000.

Cuban Polo Pony Declined as Gift By Mrs. Harding

Mrs. Harding has declined the gift of an attractive polo pony offered to her by a gallant Cuban. The offer of the gift grew out of the admiration expressed by the President's wife for "Billy," one of the ponies of the Cuban army team, which recently played the American army team here. Lieut. Col. Eugenio Silva, captain of the Cuban team, sent a note to Mrs. Harding saying that it would give him great pleasure to make her a present of the pony.

In her acknowledgment, Mrs. Harding expressed her appreciation, but said that in view of his admirable qualities as a polo player and his valuable service to the Cuban army, she could not think of accepting the valuable horse.

The equestrian statue of Joan of Arc which stood before the Cathedral of Rheims, is to be returned with impressive ceremonies. It was removed when the Germans were probing by the grand jury. Claims this was not entirely due to enlistments as among women the convictions in two years fell from 21,000 to 7,000.

(Copyright, 1921.)

The machine was found not far away badly damaged. The men gave the driver, J. J. Morgan, Timothy Bryant and Jessie Dyer.

SOME IDIOTS CRY FIRE IN A CROWDED THEATER



CLAIM POLITICIANS ROBBED ILLINOIS OF TEN MILLION

Daughter of Police Surgeon Tumbles from Second Story.

Investigators to Quiz Gov. Small in Probe of State Funds.

SPRINGFIELD, Ill., July 9.—Stories of graft in State funds, running as high as \$10,000,000, rocked Illinois political circles today on the eve of a grand jury investigation into the alleged frauds.

The inquiry, ordered by Attorney General Edward Brundage into use of State funds since 1915, threatened to strike at the political foundations of Illinois.

Investigation by the grand jury will go into the affairs of the State treasurer's office during the incumbency of Len Small, present governor; Fred E. Sterling, now lieutenant governor, and Andrew Russell, State auditor.

Probe Packing Company Loans.

Reports of a loan of \$10,000,000 in State money to two Chicago packing firms will be investigated.

Use of interest on State money, which was alleged to have been devoted to private purposes by some officials, was to be thoroughly gone into. Officials declared they believed the State had lost more than \$1,000,000 in the last six years through this channel alone.

The State treasurer's office has been a plum long sought by Illinois politicians. Large sums were spent in campaigns to gain the office, which pays a salary of \$10,000 yearly, but reports in political circles declared it was worth as high as \$200,000 annually.

Guard Treasurer's Statement.

E. E. Miller, present State treasurer, declared in a statement at his home at East St. Louis that the State had not received any interest on its money during the last five months of 1920, according to the books, when he took office. Miller will be the chief witness at the investigation.

The documents which Miller will bring into court are guarded in a vault in a Springfield bank. Deputies assigned by Sheriff Meador stand guard over them night and day.

Charges of attempted bribery by Gov. Small's appointees, made during the legislative session, will be probed by the grand jury. Claims were made by legislators that State officials offered patronage in return for votes in favor of bills sponsored by the administration.

INEANT ROASTED IN PECULIAR FIRE

BENWOOD, W. V., July 9.—Maggie Perkevich, 7 months old, was roasted to death in her bed when fire damaged the Perkevich home, caused by the strong afternoon sun's rays being focused on a sofa by a flaw in the window pane. When smoke was attempted, the mother was driven back by flames and smoke.

(Copyright, 1921.)

The machine was found not far away badly damaged. The men gave the driver, J. J. Morgan, Timothy Bryant and Jessie Dyer.

TRUCE BRINGS VIRTUAL PEACE IN IRISH CITIES

Sinn Fieners and Black and Tans Mingle in Dublin Streets.

PRECAUTIONS TO AVERT CLASHES

All Attacks Suspended And British Halt Troop Movement.

(Special Cable to The Washington Herald and United Press.)

DUBLIN, July 9.—Ireland and Britain were virtually at peace tonight.

Sinn Fien soldiers, English black and tans, and crown troops mingled in the streets. Citizens walked with their families in no danger of having to dash into doorways to avoid sudden showers of bullets.

The "Macready-Collins" truce does not go into effect officially until Monday noon, but Gen. Nevill Macready, commander of the British forces, and Michael Collins, head of the Republican Army, today ordered their men to observe it immediately.

Patrols Are Withdrawn.

The British military patrols were withdrawn, and the sentries usually posted at important places were not on duty tonight. Citizens strolled about, unmolested, and in some instances salutes were exchanged between British and Irish soldiers.

Advices from other Irish cities indicated that similar conditions prevailed in them.

The tension had not entirely relaxed, however, and precautions were being exercised by officers of both sides to prevent clashes of their men. It was feared the troops might become involved in quarrels with Sinn Fieners, which would lead to unauthorized fighting. Provisions were made for the alert to prevent any developments.

British army headquarters here today announced the terms of the truce. It goes into effect at noon Monday.

De Valera today ordered the Sinn Fieners to refrain from attacks on crown forces, under the truce, and also asked civilians to cease using arms, and to abstain from molesting government or private property.

Gen. Macready also ordered that when the truce goes into operation the ordinary police of Dublin will be entrusted with the task of patrolling the city, relieving the troops who have been cooperating with them; that searches of homes for arms and ammunition shall be discontinued; and the dispatch of reinforcements from England to Ireland shall be halted.

The order relating to dispatch of reinforcements was regarded as especially significant, as it is known that the British were preparing to send thousands of fresh troops to Ireland to crush the rebellion.

The principal Dublin newspapers declared editorially that they believed real peace was almost an accomplished fact.

HARDINGS FLEE DOWN POTOMAC TO AVOID HEAT

Three Cabinet Members And Other Officials On Mayflower.

President and Mrs. Harding fled the torrid Washington weather yesterday by boarding the Mayflower for a week-end cruise down the Potomac River, to be gone until tomorrow morning.

The Marine guard of honor and the elaborate ceremonies usually attending the boarding of the yacht by the President were dispensed with at his request. He felt it an imposition to ask enlisted men to stand at attention, a blinding afternoon. The Mayflower will drop down into Chesapeake Bay and anchor over today.

Senator Newberry Present.

In the party were Secretary of War Weeks, Postmaster General Hays, Secretary of Labor Davis, Chairman Lasker of the Shipping Board; Senator and Mrs. Watson, Indiana; Senator and Mrs. Kellogg, Minnesota; Senator Hale, Maine and Senator Newberry, Michigan.

No significance was attached to the presence of three Cabinet members in the party, though it is possible that patronage matters may be discussed briefly. Harding plans, however, to talk over the shipping board's troubles with Chairman Lasker.

Lasker Plans Clean-up.

Lasker is said to be planning a housecleaning and is understood to be anxious to get the President's approval before wielding the ax. He is caught between two fires in trying to build up a capable organization within the strict limits permitted by the administration's rigid economy program.

During the trip Harding was expected to do some work on the bonus message to be sent to Congress next week. He carried a sheaf of documents with him, which were understood to contain data for use in preparation of the message.

PLATFORMS GIVE ZONES OF SAFETY IN SCOTT CIRCLE

Compulsory Routing of Autos Lessens Perils Of Motorists.

No longer do pedestrians, and autoists, too, for that matter, get themselves into precarious situations when crossing from the sidewalk to the center of Scott Circle, with fleets of moving automobiles encircling the circle from six different directions. The pedestrians have received a new lease on life, as it were, in the shape of a five-foot platform which has been constructed in the center of the street around the circle.

The route which thoughtful motorists now take in their brief trip through the circle is dependent upon the source of the entrance into the circle and also the street by which they leave the circle. The two platforms, one on the east side and the other on the west side of the circle are clipped off at their projection at the east and west sides of Sixteenth street.

Northerly Course Inside.

The motorist traveling north on Sixteenth and who intends to continue along Sixteenth street, steers his car into the inner side of the circular platform and thus makes his exit into Sixteenth street. If, however, he chooses to go out Rhode Island avenue, or Massachusetts avenue toward the east, then he takes the outer half of the divided platform. Should he desire to make his exit at either avenue on the west side, then he makes his trip around the circle on the inside of the platform to where Sixteenth street joins the circle, when he then travels along the outer edge to his exit.